IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the Claims as follows:

1. (original) A method of screening for and/or diagnosis of hypoxia related conditions in a subject and or monitoring the effectiveness of therapy for said condition, which comprises the step of detecting and/or quantifying in a biological sample obtained from said subject an SC6 polypeptide which

a) comprises or consists of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID No. 1;

b) is a variant having one or more amino acid substitutions, deletions, insertions or modifications relative to the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID No. 1 provided that such variant exhibits the immunological and/or transporter activity of the polypeptide with the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID No. 1; or

c) is a fragment of a polypeptide as defined in a) or b) above, which is at least ten amino acids long.

2. (original) A method of screening for and/or diagnosis of hypoxia related conditions in a subject and or monitoring the effectiveness of therapy for said condition, which comprises the step of detecting and/or quantifying in a biological sample obtained from said subject the amount of an isolated or recombinant DNA nucleic acid sequence which

a) comprises or consists of the DNA sequence of SEQ ID No. 2, or its RNA equivalent;

b) is a sequence which is complementary to the sequences of a);

c) is a sequence which codes for the same polypeptide as the sequences of a) or b);

d) is a sequence which shows substantial identity with any of those of a), b) and c); or

e) is a sequence which codes for a variant or fragment of SEQ ID No. 1.

3. (original) An antibody that specifically binds to an SC6 polypeptide as defined in claim 1.

4. (original) An antibody according to claim 3 wherein the antibody is monoclonal, polyclonal, chimeric, humanised or bispecific, or is conjugated to a therapeutic moiety, second antibody or a fragment thereof, a cytotoxic agent or cytokine.

5. (currently amended) The method according to claim 1 wherein the polypeptide is detected and/ or quantified using an antibody ~~as defined in claim 3 or claim 4.~~ that specifically binds to an SC6 polypeptide.

6. (currently amended) A method of screening for agents that modulate

(i) the expression or activity of an SC6 polypeptide as defined in claim 1, or

(ii) the expression of a nucleic acid molecule ~~as defined in claim 2~~, said nucleic acid molecule comprising an isolated or recombinant DNA nucleic acid sequence which

a) comprises or consists of the DNA sequence of SEQ ID No. 2, or its RNA equivalent;

b) is a sequence which is complementary to the sequences of a);

c) is a sequence which codes for the same polypeptide as the sequences of a) or b);

d) is a sequence which shows substantial identity with any of those of a), b) and c); or

e) is a sequence which codes for a variant or fragment of SEQ ID No. 1,

said method comprising comparing the expression or activity of said polypeptide, or the expression of said nucleic acid molecule, in the presence of a candidate agent with the expression or activity of said polypeptide, or the expression of said nucleic acid molecule, in the absence of the candidate agent or in the presence of a control agent; and

determining whether the candidate agent causes the expression or activity of said polypeptide, or the expression of said nucleic acid molecule, to change.

7. (original) A method of screening for agents that interact with an SC6 polypeptide, said method comprising contacting said polypeptide with a candidate agent and determining whether or not the candidate agent interacts with said polypeptide.

8. (original) The method of claim 6 wherein the expression or activity level of said polypeptide, or the expression level of said nucleic acid molecule is compared with a predetermined reference range.

9. (currently amended) An agent identified by the method of claim[[s]] 6, ~~7 or 8,~~ which inhibits or down-regulates the expression or activity of said polypeptide, or the expression of said nucleic acid molecule.

10. (currently amended) A method for the prophylaxis and/ or treatment of a subject suffering from a hypoxia related condition, which comprises administering to said subject a therapeutically effective amount of a member selected from the group consisting of:

(i) an SC6 polypeptide as defined in claim 1,

(ii) a nucleic acid molecule ~~as defined in claim 2 or~~, said nucleic acid molecule comprising an isolated or recombinant DNA nucleic acid sequence which

a) comprises or consists of the DNA sequence of SEQ ID No. 2, or its RNA equivalent;

b) is a sequence which is complementary to the sequences of a);

c) is a sequence which codes for the same polypeptide as the sequences of a) or b);

d) is a sequence which shows substantial identity with any of those of a), b) and c); or

e) is a sequence which codes for a variant or fragment of SEQ ID No. 1, and

(iii) an agent which inhibits or down-regulates the expression or activity of an SC6 polypeptide.

11. (canceled)

12. (canceled)

13. (currently amended) The method according to claim 10, ~~or the use according to claim 11 or claim 12,~~ wherein the agent is an antibody ~~as defined in claim 3 or claim 4.~~ that specifically binds to an SC6 polypeptide.

14. (currently amended) The method according to claim 1, ~~2, 5, or 10 or the use according to claim 11 or 12~~ wherein the hypoxia related condition is selected from cancer, angiogenesis and angiogenesis related disorders.

15. (currently amended) The method ~~or use~~ according to claim 14 wherein the cancer is selected from cervical, colon, renal, lung, uterine, breast or pancreatic cell carcinoma, lymphoma and leukaemia.

16. (new) The method according to claim 2, wherein the hypoxia related condition is selected from cancer, angiogenesis and angiogenesis related disorders.

17. (new) The method according to claim 5, wherein the hypoxia related condition is selected from cancer, angiogenesis and angiogenesis related disorders.

18. (new) The method according to claim 10, wherein the hypoxia related condition is selected from cancer, angiogenesis and angiogenesis related disorders.

19. (new) The method according to claim 16 wherein the cancer is selected from cervical, colon, renal, lung, uterine, breast or pancreatic cell carcinoma, lymphoma and leukaemia.

20. (new) The method according to claim 17 wherein the cancer is selected from cervical, colon,

renal, lung, uterine, breast or pancreatic cell carcinoma, lymphoma and leukaemia.

21. (new) The method according to claim 18 wherein the cancer is selected from cervical, colon, renal, lung, uterine, breast or pancreatic cell carcinoma, lymphoma and leukaemia.